

REBEL LEADER CHANGES PLANS

WILL MEET FEDERALS NOW APPROACHING JUAREZ

Victory Over Troops Would Result in Surrender of Town Without Fight

(Times Leased Wire.) El Paso, Texas, Feb. 7.—Abandoning for the present his plans to capture Juarez, General Orozco, the rebel leader, is believed here to-day to be preparing to meet, and if possible, to crush General Navarro, who, with 700 men, is marching to the relief of Juarez from the south.

Orozco's force, it is said, is now located near Samalayuta, 25 miles from Juarez, and the chances of an attack in this section are believed to be remote, at least until Navarro has been met.

It is reported that part of Orozco's plan is to form a junction with several bands of insurgents who have been harassing the federals near Corralitos. If this junction is effected Orozco will then outnumber Navarro by two to one and victory should be easy.

Criticism of Orozco, which was free when the siege of Juarez was apparently abandoned, is to-day silent in the face of the new turn affairs have taken, and it is generally believed by adherents of the insurgents that his course has been the wisest possible. With Navarro defeated, if Orozco can encompass that attempt there will be no other government forces of importance in Chihuahua and there is little doubt that a new march on Juarez would end in an easy—possibly a bloodless—victory.

Secure in this belief that there will be no fighting at Juarez for some days at least, most of the inhabitants of the city who last week fled across the American frontier, are to-day returning to their homes and celebrating with much drinking their escape from bombardment. The city of Juarez, however, is still under martial law.

Awaits Reinforcements. Huehaca, Ariz., Feb. 7.—A decisive rebel victory at Juarez would be the signal for the secession of the state of Sonora, according to advice received here to-day from insurgent towns where, in anticipation of such an event, provisional officials are said to be preparing to cross the border into Sonora and with Sonora in their possession and Chihuahua and there is little doubt that an advance on Chihuahua and then on Mexico City would follow.

General Orozco will return shortly to the attack on Juarez. His delay is said to have been caused by the failure of additional troops, organized in Guaymas, Hermosillo and Nogales to arrive. Details arriving to-day from Cananea reported that insurgents who recently abandoned Surahuapa are reorganizing on the Yaqui river preparatory to moving to General Orozco's assistance.

United States army officers of high rank are expected to arrive here this week to assume charge of the border patrol. Their coming, it is believed, will prove a plan to force General Orozco to take advantage of the trouble in Mexico to engage in a set of war maneuvers of his own. The signal service will be given a thorough test.

Several bands of American adventurers went on joining the Central army, General Orozco, have been turned back.

On Way to Join Rebels. Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 7.—Private advice received here indicates that a band of 100 armed Americans forced their way across the border to-day and joined Gen. Orozco's rebels.

May Use Aeroplanes. Douglas, Ariz., Feb. 7.—Six aeroplanes to be used by the Mexican rebels to shell the federal forces out of impregnable positions on mountain tops. It is reported here, will be shipped across the border within a few days. Aviator Smith, of Douglas, owner of a Curtiss airplane, is said to have received overtures from both the revolutionists and Mexican government to join their armies. Smith is said to have tentatively agreed to accept the government's offer.

Fire on Red Cross Flag. Washington, Feb. 7.—Ambassador Wilson at Mexico City, was ordered to-day by Secretary Knox to investigate a charge that Mexican troops fired on a Red Cross flag during the fighting on Saturday near Juarez.

Knox acted upon complaint of Representative Smith of El Paso district of Texas, to whom Dr. Bush of El Paso telegraphed that he had been fired upon while displaying the Red Cross flag on the battlefield.

FOREST FIRE LOSSES. Approximately 700,000 Feet of Timber Destroyed in Oregon and Washington Last Year.

Portland, Ore., Feb. 7.—Final reports of the forest fire losses in Oregon and Washington which have just been made show that approximately 700,000 feet of timber was destroyed in the conflagrations last year.

In making the report officials urge that better protection be given the forests and a reserves be opened to stock as they lessen the danger of surface fires by eating the grasses. It is probable that the suggestion will be carried out.

OIL ON FIRE. Bakersville, Cal., Feb. 7.—Gusher number 2 of the Honolulu Oil company operating in the west side oil fields, is burning, despite all efforts to extinguish it. Two workmen engaged in fighting the flames were severely burned, and surrounding property is threatened.

GET READY TO GO TO SOOKE

WATER COMMISSIONER PREPARING A REPORT

City Council to Hold Special Session to Discuss Recommendations

The forthcoming report of the water commissioner, James L. Raymur, on the Sooke lake project, which will be dealt with at a special meeting of the city council, is awaited with very great interest, inasmuch as it is anticipated it will disclose something in connection with the enterprise.

Under the terms of the by-law which received the assent of the ratepayers on the occasion of the recent municipal elections the water commissioner is instructed to do two specific things—secure as soon as possible the necessary land for watershed purposes and cause preliminary surveys to be made.

In regard to the securing of the watershed, Mr. Raymur has been busy for the past three weeks concluding arrangements with various property owners whose lands he seeks to acquire. This has necessarily been a very tedious task. It is understood that the expenditure involved in the purchase of the watershed will total a very considerable sum. In regard to the preliminary surveys which will have to be undertaken, before any route for the pipe line can be fixed, it is assumed that the council will be favorable to securing the services of surveyors familiar with the country. It is not supposed that the actual work of construction in connection with the huge undertaking can be commenced before next spring, the whole of the present season being occupied in preparatory work, surveys, etc.

In order that Times readers may understand the status of the project and the work which is just engaging the attention of the water commissioner, the following clauses from the by-law are quoted:

"The said water commissioner, subject to the approval of the said council, shall as soon as possible proceed to acquire the said waters and sufficient real property to insure that the water shall be kept clean and healthful, and shall make or cause to be made, such preliminary plans, surveys, and estimates of the manner and cost of conserving the said waters and of conveying the same to the city of Victoria, and joining the same to the waters of the system at present owned and operated by the said city, as shall enable the said water commissioner to call for tenders for the contracts or agreements mentioned in the next paragraph hereof, and such preliminary work and the purchase of said lands shall be paid at once out of moneys raised under the said section 2 of section 7 of the Municipal Clauses Act, and any such contracts of agreements so negotiated shall be of no force and effect until after the same shall have been approved of by a majority vote of such electors, and the council shall enter upon no work of conservation or conveying without such vote of the electors."

That said water commissioner shall be authorized and empowered to enter into an agreement or agreements with a contractor or contractors for the doing of the said work of conservation and of conveying said waters, or such parts thereof as may be deemed proper, which shall be subject to the approval of the electors entitled to vote upon the laws by which section 2 of section 7 of the Municipal Clauses Act, and any such contracts of agreements so negotiated shall be of no force and effect until after the same shall have been approved of by a majority vote of such electors, and the council shall enter upon no work of conservation or conveying without such vote of the electors."

AUSTRALIAN NAVY. Melbourne, Feb. 7.—The federal minister of defence, Mr. Pearce, is applying to the Admiralty for the loan of the cruiser Psyche to be used for the purpose of training Australian officers for service on the federal fleet.

FOUND DEAD IN SNOW DRIFT. Chicago, Feb. 7.—Suicide is marked on the police blotter against the name of Yan Hasselt, 35, the son of a wealthy Dutch family, who was found dead to-day in a snow drift. Yan Hasselt's valuables had not been molested, there was no sign that he had been drinking, and as he was in apparently perfect health, the authorities concluded he deliberately ended his life by freezing.

TEN MEN BLOWN TO PIECES BY EXPLOSION. Gelatine Powder Wrecks Part of Plant at Marquette, Michigan. Marquette, Mich., Feb. 7.—Gelatine powder, largely composed of nitroglycerine, is to-day held responsible for the explosion yesterday of the plant of the Pluto Powder Company when ten men met instant death. The mixture was being stirred in a big crucible. One thousand pounds of gelatine was being stirred in a big crucible. One thousand pounds of gelatine was being stirred in a big crucible.

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PORTLAND, ORE., FEB. 7.—Seeking a quarter of a million dollars to be used to bear the black fingers of the bubonic plague from China's shores, Dr. Martin R. Edwards of the Harvard Medical college, has just arrived in Portland. He purposes to ask the Oregon legislature for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 per year for five years to aid in the work.

CLEARING MONTREAL STREETS. Montreal, Feb. 7.—Two thousand men and twelve hundred carts are now engaged by the city to remove the snow from the streets. The city officials say that it will take over a week before the snow is all cleared away from the streets where there are no tracks.



A NIGHTMARE. The horrible thing which disturbs the rest of the Minister of Agriculture.

SENDING AID TO FAMINE SUFFERERS

CHINESE AUTHORITIES WILL SEND PACK TRAINS. Hundreds of Peasants Are Dying Daily in Remote Districts.

(Times Leased Wire.) Nanking, Feb. 7.—The expenditure of \$300,000 for the relief of 2,000,000 famine sufferers was authorized to-day by the provincial authorities of Anhui and Kiang Su. The supplies will be sent out in pack trains to the remote farming sections, where the distress is worst, and where hundreds of peasants are dying daily.

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AMERICAN SHIPS BOYCOTTED

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(Special to the Times.) Constantinople, Feb. 7.—R. Rigley Carter, American minister to Roumania, temporarily head of the American embassy, was to-day forced to lodge a complaint with the minister of foreign affairs because of the continued boycott of American ships. Two steamers flying the American flag have been lying in the harbor several days, but because of discrimination, Minister Carter charged, even the passengers were unable to land.

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FREE HAND FOR TORONTO MEMBERS

MANY RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS OF RECIPROCITY

The Opposition Will, However, Indulge in Flag-Waving Demonstration

(Special to the Times.) Ottawa, Feb. 7.—There were two party caucuses this morning on the reciprocity agreement at which there were very different scenes enacted.

The Liberals were unanimous and enthusiastic in their endorsement of the new trade agreement. Every member who spoke, representing every part of Canada, approved the agreement which Hon. W. S. Fielding and Hon. W. Paterson secured at Washington as the best thing which has happened to Canada since confederation.

In the Conservative caucus there was a marked difference of opinion. Some members reported their constituents would benefit so materially from the treaty, that they could not oppose it. It was decided there should be no flag-waving demonstration in the direction of the opposition members in the House, but there was a general understanding that there should be a flag-waving demonstration and a declaration of independence in the event of annexation by the United States.

The reciprocity debate which was to have been continued in the Commons this afternoon has, on the request of R. L. Borden, been postponed till Thursday next.

Views of London Times. London, Feb. 7.—The Times says that Canada for years has been drawing apart, not nearer to the United States. The present position is partly due to the latter's growth in population and the exhaustion of its natural resources, but the United States does not throw down the trade barriers for nothing. The whole affair is a specimen of fiscal bargaining such as Canada has already acquired in the case of France and Germany, but is more significant.

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BRITISH MEMBERS ON RECIPROCITY

PREMIER ASQUITH REPLIES TO OPPOSITION

A. J. Balfour Says Old Country Has Turned Deaf Ear to Canada

(From The Times.) London, Feb. 7.—Lord Lansdowne, the House of Lords, and A. J. Balfour in the House of Commons, the respective leaders of the opposition, yesterday took occasion to denounce the reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada, but the evening session was mainly devoted to getting the legislative bill under way.

Premier Asquith gave formal notice of the veto bill and his intention to claim the whole of Canada for the House until the Easter recess, in order to get the veto bill disposed of before the recess. The government's policy was discursively criticized in the two Houses, but outside of references to the reciprocity agreement, the debate in the House of Lords was of no special interest.

Lord Lansdowne intimated that the House of Lords was still ready to negotiate with the government on the necessary changes in the constitution of the Upper Chamber and the relations between the two Houses.

James Ramsay Macdonald, who yesterday was elected chairman of the labor party in the Commons, stated that the imperial conference ought to be the real beginning of an imperial understanding between ourselves and the colonies. He denounced Balfour's statement about disastrous consequences of the reciprocity agreement as a colossal blunder.

Dr. Hillier stated that having spent half of his life in the colonies, he profoundly regretted that the reciprocity agreement had not mentioned the King's speech. He urged immediate and drastic action before the ratification of the agreement, otherwise the future historian might describe the negotiation of a treaty which was the first act in the drama of the passing of the British Empire.

The prime minister, in a general reply to the opposition speeches, said that the present it would be wise to withhold criticism of the reciprocity agreement. It was as certain as the rising of the sun that sooner or later the United States was bound to level the tariff wall against Canada. He said it was certain that the government could do nothing by preference to prevent the natural trade of events.

It is expected the debate on the subject will be carried over into the morning. At the time of the speech, no mention of the alien act or opposition has given notice of an amendment raising this question.

The Irish party at a prolonged meeting adopted a resolution to the effect that while approving the principle of the payment of the members of the House of Commons, they desired this measure excluded until the House had announced itself as ready to accept voluntary contributions and would therefore ask the government to devote the money to some useful public purpose in Ireland. It is known that the details of the bill are in other hands and it is unlikely to accept this.

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